

Corn and Grain Sorghum Weekly Update – June 16, 2023

Division of Agriculture, University of Arkansas System, Cooperative Extension Service

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General Information

As seen in Table 1 below, heat units and crop stage along with a few notes about field activities are listed for each location. Weather data is collected at the weather station placed at each individual field. We are utilizing AgSense telemetry units with soil moisture sensors placed at 6, 12, 18, and 30 inch to collect soil moisture data. We input this data to the AR Soil Calc app to initiate irrigations.

The Drew County CGSRVP field was the first to reach the reproductive stage this past week. We were starting to see a few tassels emerging on some bigger plants and field edges in Mississippi and Jefferson County fields which should be full tassel over the weekend. A few more fields will reach R1 next week as well. All fields except for Clark County will have pre-tassel application of nitrogen completed by early next week. A couple of fields did suffer some lodging, and we will get percent lodging counts next week. Dr. Jason Kelley, Professor Wheat and Feed Grains Extension Agronomist, provided some valuable information about estimating yield loss due to hail damage, and I have attached the link below. The link below has some information about hail damage on corn, and specifically Table 3 provides an estimated yield loss by corn growth stage X leaf area lost. The most detrimental time for hail is at tassel/silking.

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/nch/nch-1.html>

Tattered or split leaves will look rough but will still function if they are green a couple days after the hail event. Waiting 3 days after the hail event to access damage may give you a better indication of how much damage there really is.

Table 1.

County	Heat Units	Crop Stage	Field Notes
Clark	1122	V10	Field received 4.12" of rain this week and is the only field that has not been irrigated.
Clay	1332	V15	Field should be at tassel early next week.
Drew	1589	R1	First field in program to reach reproductive stage. It did receive a very small amount of hail damage and very little lodging but nothing significant in the storms late in the week.
Faulkner	1245	V14	Pre-tassel was applied followed by rainfall early in the week.
Independence	1222	V13	Pre-tassel will be applied early next week.
Jefferson	1385	V17	The field had received 3.09" of rain for the week as of Thursday. Starting to see some tassels on field edges. There is some lodging, and we will get percentage counts next week.
Lonoke	1201	V13	Pre-tassel will be applied early next week.
Mississippi	1403	V17	Field received adequate rainfall to not need an irrigation for a week. Starting to see some tassels on field edges.

White	1204	V13	Pre-tassel will be applied early next week. There is some lodging, and we will get percentage counts next week.
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